

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

REPORT OF THE AUDITING COMMITTEE
ON THE TOWNSHIP ACCOUNTS

At a meeting of the Township Committee, held on Monday, the 10th day of April, 1891, at 8 o'clock, P. M., in the room of the Township Committee, the following report was read and adopted:

The Committee has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the report of the Auditor, dated the 10th day of April, 1891, and to express its appreciation of the thoroughness and accuracy of the same.

The Committee has also the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the report of the Collector, dated the 10th day of April, 1891, and to express its appreciation of the thoroughness and accuracy of the same.

The Committee has also the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the report of the Treasurer, dated the 10th day of April, 1891, and to express its appreciation of the thoroughness and accuracy of the same.

The Committee has also the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the report of the Assessor, dated the 10th day of April, 1891, and to express its appreciation of the thoroughness and accuracy of the same.

The Committee has also the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the report of the Surveyor, dated the 10th day of April, 1891, and to express its appreciation of the thoroughness and accuracy of the same.

The Committee has also the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the report of the Engineer, dated the 10th day of April, 1891, and to express its appreciation of the thoroughness and accuracy of the same.

The Committee has also the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the report of the Fireman, dated the 10th day of April, 1891, and to express its appreciation of the thoroughness and accuracy of the same.

The Committee has also the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the report of the School Board, dated the 10th day of April, 1891, and to express its appreciation of the thoroughness and accuracy of the same.

The Committee has also the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the report of the Health Officer, dated the 10th day of April, 1891, and to express its appreciation of the thoroughness and accuracy of the same.

Residents and property-owners on the street extension applied for a walk over Washington Avenue at street. Referred to Crosswalk Committee.

A petition was received from the Belle Avenue property-owners requesting the widening of that street to the "line" line, which petition was referred to Road Committee.

An American Champion Road Machine was given to the Committee to examine. The machine was found to be in good condition and was recommended for purchase.

Mr. Rayner asked if sufficient notice had been given to the Committee of the moving out of his rooms on Glen Avenue. He said he understood that Mr. Dodd had not received notice.

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There was a quiet wedding at St. John's Church, Liberty Street, on Wednesday, the 8th, at 4.30 P. M. The couple were Miss Louise Beck and Glen Ridge and Dr. William Haynes of New York.

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Y. APRIL 11, 1891.

PRICE FIVE

THE EXPERT'S REPORT.

RECOMMENDS THAT THE NAMES OF LINQUENTS BE PUBLISHED YEARLY.

Years the Collector has been in office \$500,000, and there is an apparent difference of but \$227.53, which the Claims, Can be Accounted

The following is the final report of Expert Accountant Richard F. Stevens, together with the comparative statements of receipts of the Collector and those of the Accountant:

BLOOMFIELD, N. J., March 16, 1891.
Messrs. E. A. Rayner, C. H. Halfpenny, Auditing Committee of the Township Committee of Bloomfield, N. J., for the year 1890:

GENTLEMEN: Since rendering my report to you under date of January 24, 1891, I have received from Mr. A. C. Marr, Collector, a statement of the taxes he has received since he last rendered me an account, and up to the closing of his books for the year, amounting to the additional sum of \$712.81 (see Exhibit No. 2 annexed). I have also received the printed report of the Township Committee for the year ending March 1, 1891, which gives the amounts Mr. Marr states he has collected during that period, say \$15,173.49 (Exhibit No. 3). I now append a final statement showing the total amounts, separated into years, which the Collector credits the township with, and side by side with it the amounts which I find according to the books furnished me he should have collected (Exhibit No. 1).

In the years 1877 to 1882 and 1884, in which the Collector credits more than I find, he apparently should, most of this difference belongs to the township, and I cannot but believe that the Collector has been stopping in the "stagnant" waters of the Comptroller's office, but it would have been possible to pay in money, but it would have been a small sum, and I am sure that the Collector would have been able to do so. The difference between the two accounts is \$712.81, which I find according to the books furnished me he should have collected (Exhibit No. 1).

The Township Committee would be pleased to have a like Committee from the citizens to work with them in this matter. It is to be hoped that every one will give something for this object, and do it at once. Of course the money need not be paid till the monument is ordered, but if the people are ready to subscribe the money, and it is known how much to spend, it will be an easy matter to get the work done in time. The members of the post propose that about \$10,000 or \$12,000 be raised for this purpose.

A Runaway Accident.
A runaway accident occurred on Monday last on Broad Street, near the New York and Greenwood Lake Railway. Mrs. Catherine Strauss, an elderly woman, was knocked down, run over and had her head cut open and her right arm broken. A horse attached to a light buggy belonging to Frederick Wymer of East Orange, while standing in front of the residence of Conrad Bohr on New Street, became frightened at a passing train, and in spite of the efforts of Mr. Wymer to hold it succeeded in breaking away. The frightened animal plunged down Broad Street, and when near Park Avenue came in contact with John Herman's milk wagon, taking off a wheel and at the same time reducing the buggy to kindling wood.

The animal was finally brought to a standstill near Liberty Street by Percy H. Johnson, who was passing at the time. The woman was taken to St. Michael's Hospital Newark.

Elected a Member of the County Committee.
Town Committeeman Robert S. Rudd was elected as member of the Democratic County Committee at the primary held in the rooms of the Bloomfield Building and Loan Association last Tuesday evening. Edwin A. Rayner, who has served in the Committee for several terms, and who has also filled the position of Treasurer for that body, declined to be a candidate for re-election. Mr. Rudd was elected unanimously.

To Open a New Series.
The Essex County Building and Loan Association will open a new series of book (the seventh) at the April meeting, Tuesday, the 11th inst., at Dodd's, 411 Glenwood Avenue. There will be only to loan. The Secretary and Treasurer will be at the hall at 6.30 o'clock.

Arbor Day in the Schools.
Arbor day was observed in the public schools in this place with appropriate exercises, consisting principally of singing. None of the classes planted trees, having set out a large number one ago. The schools closed at one o'clock.

Firemen's Relief Association.
A special meeting of the Relief Association was held at the home house on Monday at B. Chambers, for eight years' service of the Association. The resignation of Mr. Rudd was accepted unanimously.

could not go behind the actual figures produced before me, and he must seek relief for these over-credits from your Committee.

I have no means of ascertaining how Mr. Marr makes up his annual statements; as I stated in my former report he cannot and does not do it from the books furnished me. I would recommend that Mr. Marr be allowed full access to all the exhibits that have been furnished by me to your Committee, and that he have ample time to reconcile and correct apparent mistakes. I make this recommendation as from my knowledge as an expert accountant I am positive that there has been in no case any attempt on his part to defraud the township of a penny; all errors, irregularities and inconsistencies have occurred from the muddled system that has prevailed in keeping the accounts in the department of the township. Under the present system, and the laws as they are constituted, the Collector has control of the machinery by which moneys are received. A receiving clerk clothed with such powers is almost absolute, and there is nothing to prevent his collecting a large amount of taxes, failing to turn them in for a period, and when he does so, forcing them with fresh taxes, since, and so, by continually pursuing this plan, always have under his hand a large amount of the township's money, no expert bookkeeper or good accountant, however absent, can discover except by the mere surer of this State defaulted to a transit over \$50,000; he collected Railroad, and simply failing to turn them in, he had fresh ones to take his place.

Always had about that station has been stopped in the "stagnant" waters of the Comptroller's office, but it would have been possible to pay in money, but it would have been a small sum, and I am sure that the Collector would have been able to do so. The difference between the two accounts is \$712.81, which I find according to the books furnished me he should have collected (Exhibit No. 1).

The Township Committee would be pleased to have a like Committee from the citizens to work with them in this matter. It is to be hoped that every one will give something for this object, and do it at once. Of course the money need not be paid till the monument is ordered, but if the people are ready to subscribe the money, and it is known how much to spend, it will be an easy matter to get the work done in time. The members of the post propose that about \$10,000 or \$12,000 be raised for this purpose.

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A Fair and Festival.
A grand fair and festival will be given next Wednesday and Thursday afternoon and evening at Spragg's Pavilion near the D. L. & W. Railroad station by Covenant Lodge, No. 1531, Knights and Ladies of Honor of this town. A fireman's rubber coat and boots will be voted for at one cent a vote. Among other articles to be changed off are satin quilt and a chenille table cover valued at \$50, presented by McWhirter & Wilson of Newark. The proceeds of the fair will be applied to the St. Benedict fund.

Attended a Concert in Montclair.
A large number of music-loving people from this place attended the concert given in the Congregational Church, Montclair, on Thursday night that was given by the Glee Club. The club was assisted by Mrs. Gerrit Smith, soprano; Mrs. F. F. Powers, baritone; and the New York Philharmonic Club. A long but very interesting programme was carried out.

For the Destitute.
The INDEPENDENT has received the following from the destitute family mentioned in last week's issue: A. T. \$1. Directors of the Bloomfield Building and Loan Association, \$3.50; Seymour P. Gilbert, quantity of coal; Nemo, seven pounds of meat.

The King's Daughters.
Mrs. Margaret Botome, the founder of the society of King's Daughters, will deliver an informal talk to ladies at the residence of Mrs. M. L. Swain, corner of Clark Street and Hillside Avenue, on Tuesday afternoon, April 23.

The Montclair Herald.
Martin J. Synnot has assumed the business part of the Montclair Herald. This journal now makes its Thursday morning.